

The French Revolution

Why France? Why then?



What was happening in the world in the years leading up to 1789?

- ★ Scientific Revolution
- ★ Enlightenment ideas
- ★ Agricultural Revolution
- ★ 18th century wars
- ★ American Revolution
- ★ Absolutism in France

French Estates

- 1st - 1/2% of population
clergy - no taxes
- 2nd - 1.5% of population
nobility - no taxes
- 3rd - 98% of population
everyone else
paid all the taxes



Overview of the French Revolution	
Napoleon & the French Empire	Fall of Napoleon (continental system, Russian invasion, Waterloo, etc.) French nationalism increases & ideas spread via wars French empire (France, satellites, allied states) Napoleonic Codes (1807) Napoleon crowns himself at Notre Dame Cathedral (Dec. 1804) First Consul of the Republic - Napoleon I (May 1804) Bank of France (1800), Concordat of 1801, Civil Codes (1804) October coup d'etat Battle of the Nile (August 1798) defeat Napoleon's return to Paris - 1797
	The Directory - 5-man council (1795) - supported military expansion Military used to squash domestic demonstrations (sans-culottes, ie) National Convention abolished economic controls Girondists readmitted to the National Convention Inflation & self-indulgence increased, people turned to religion Robespierre executed July 28, 1794 by a fearful middle class Thermidorian Reaction - July 1794 French military still at war
	Reign of Terror - planned economy, levée en mass, de-Christianization Committee of Public Safety Jacobins, with sans-culotte support, gain control Girondists ousted from National Convention - May-June 1793 France declares war on Britain, Holland, Austria, Prussia - Feb. 1, 1793 Execution of Louis XVI - January 21, 1793 National Convention - late Sept. 1792 September Massacres - 1792 France declared a Republic - September 1, 1792 Second Revolution - August attack of Versailles (by sans-culottes) & call for a national convention to write a new constitution First Coalition b/n Austria and Prussia Brunswick Manifesto - July 1792 France declares war on Austria - April 1792 Declaration of Pillnitz - August 1791 Louis XVI tries to flee - June 1791
	"The revolution is over!" Constitution of 1791 - Legislative Assembly - limited monarchy Civil Constitution of the Clergy - July 1790 Women's March on Versailles - Oct. 1789 Declaration of the Rights of Man - August 1789 The Great Fear - July-August 1789 Storming of the Bastille - July 1789 Tennis Court Oath - June 1789 National Assembly - June 1789 Estates General met at Versailles - May 1789
Causes	Absolutism (Old Regime) No political representation Rigid social structure Economic crisis (debt, poor harvests, unfair taxes, unequal land ownership, etc.)

p. 98

01-Intro to French Rev.notebook

1st Stage
Moderate
reform

"The revolution is over!"
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Civil Constitution of the Clergy - July 1790
Women's March on Versailles - Oct. 1789
Declaration of the Rights of Man - August 1789
The Great Fear - July-August 1789
Storming of the Bastille - July 1789
Tennis Court Oath - June 1789
National Assembly - June 1789
Estates General met at Versailles - May 1789

Causes

Absolutism (Old Regime)
No political representation
Rigid social structure
Economic crisis (debt, poor harvests,
unfair taxes, unequal land ownership, etc.)

- Taxes were based on tradition and custom.
- Taxes were unfairly applied.
- 4 main unfair taxes: *Taille, Gabelle, Vingtième, Capitation*

Name of tax	Type of tax	Why it was important
<i>Taille</i>	property tax	paid mostly by peasants
<i>Gabelle</i>	salt tax	paid only by some regions; varied by region
<i>Vingtième</i>	income tax	intended to collect 1/20th of a person's income; paid mostly by poor and middle class
<i>Capitation</i>	head tax	an addition to the <i>Taille</i> , levied on the 3rd estate

French Burden of Taxation on The Peasants

French Peasants must pay...

To the Church:

❖ Tithe

To the State:

- ☐ Taille
- ☐ Vingtieme
- ☐ Capitation
- ☐ Gabelle (salt tax)

*Note: In France, grain prices increased by 60% between 1730 and 1789

To Seigneur: (feudal lord of his/her parish)

- Corvee (cash or kind)
- Cens (feudal rent in cash)
- Champart (rent in kind)
- Lods et ventes (charge on the transfer of property)
- If he doesn't own land himself, he may have to pay to use the lord's mill, wine press, or bakery

Reading #1 - Plight of the Peasants

- ★ What abuses does the author see in system of taxation & justice?
- ★ Why did he consider the nobles' hunting rights to be such an despicable issue?
- ★ If you were a peasant, what change would you want?

Homework - Ch. 19-1

